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# THE HARTWELLS OF AMERICA NEWSLETTER

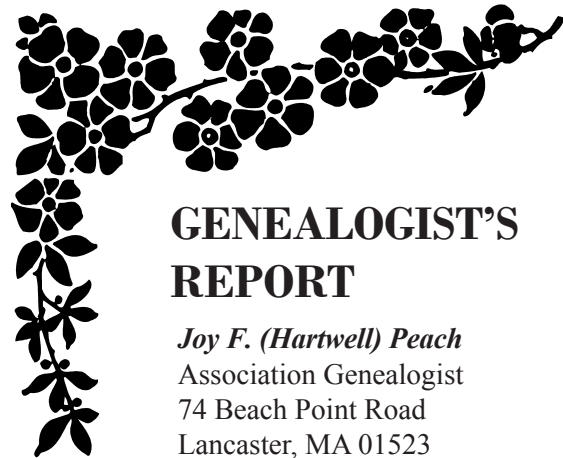
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Volume 131, No. 1

Spring 2015

## Notice of Seventy-Eighth Reunion & Annual Business Meeting

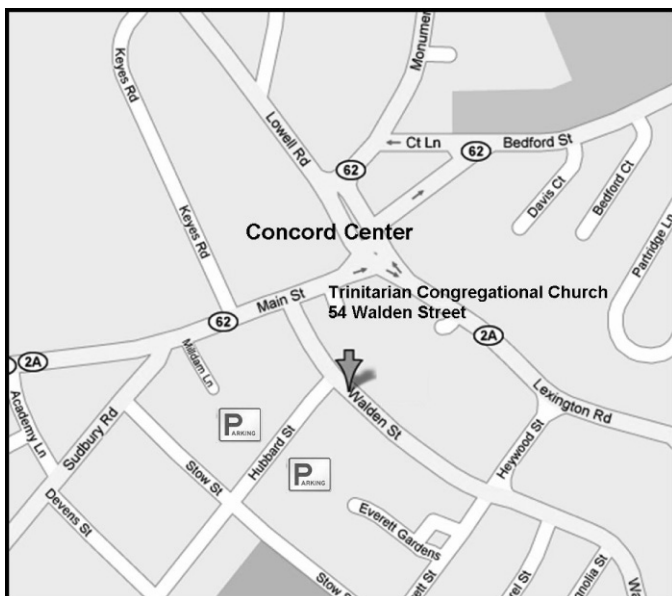
Date: Saturday, June 27, 2015  
Place: Trinitarian Congregational Church  
54 Walden Street  
Concord, Massachusetts  
Time: Greetings & Salutations  
Coffee & Pastries 10:00-12:00  
Bring Your Own Picnic Luncheon: 12:00-1:00  
Business Meeting: 1:00



## GENEALOGIST'S REPORT

*Joy F. (Hartwell) Peach*  
Association Genealogist  
74 Beach Point Road  
Lancaster, MA 01523  
[joypeach@verizon.net](mailto:joypeach@verizon.net)

## Reunion Site



## THE STORY OF ADA (HARTWELL) FARMER REID

An unexpected email from a lady in Atlanta, Georgia, led to a correction, some additions, and a sad story for the next edition of the Hartwell genealogy. The query was about Ada Elvira Hartwell, daughter of Amasa and his second wife, Lucy Ann (Gates) Tatman. Ada was born in Groton 17 June 1884. In the 1956 genealogy, Ada is incorrectly listed as a daughter of Alfred Amasa Hartwell, a son of Amasa and his first wife, and actually a half-brother of Ada. Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841-1910 make it clear that Ada was the daughter of Amasa, not his son, and she may well have the oldest Hartwell father in the records. I had not traced Ada any further until receiving this query, but her story deserves to be told. It seems she married in Nashua, NH, 7 May 1902, Fred A. Farmer, who was born in Shirley about 1882. Four months after their marriage (which probably explains why they married in Nashua), Ada gave birth to a little boy they named Norman Frederick Farmer, born in Groton on 10 Sept. 1902. Nine days later, on 19 September, Fred died of "an accidental shooting." Ada gave little Norman over to the state, possibly because she could not afford to raise him,

and apparently had no later contact with him, as he is found on the 1910 federal census living in the household of Charles & Maribelle Dyke, where he is described as a "boarder." Three years later Ada married Frederick Reid and had three more sons, so her story isn't all tragic, even though she apparently never had any further connection with her first-born son.

#### **HARTWELL FAMILY REGISTER AT NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

The winter 2014 issue of NEHGS's *American Ancestors* magazine contains a story about their acquisition of the "beautiful family register watercolor, purchased from a seller in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, who knew nothing of its history." This register outlines the family of George Washington Hartwell of Oxford, Massachusetts. George W. is well documented in genealogical records, so the family register doesn't add anything to our knowledge, but it is nice to know that it will be carefully preserved at America's premier genealogical library.

#### **DEATHS IN 2014 SINCE THE 2014 NEWSLETTER AND 2015 DEATHS TO DATE**

Names in bold are identified. Please let me know if you have any information on any of the others. All records are from Legacy.com unless otherwise noted.

Anne (Vanderbilt) Hartwell d. Framingham, MA  
9 Dec. 2014.

Bianca M. Hartwell d. in Montgomery, AL  
23 April 2015, aged 30y.

**Clara Jane (Heath) Hartwell**, widow of **Warre Wheeler<sup>11</sup> Hartwell**, d. in Swampscott, MA  
23 Sept. 2014, aged 89y.

**Dewitt T. Hartwell** (Unattached Virginia Hartwell family) d. Fredericksburg, VA 25 Nov. 2014.

Gene Hartwell, d. Amarillo, TX 8 Oct. 2014.

**Henry Reynolds<sup>12</sup> Hartwell** died in Ocala, FL  
5 January 2015, aged 85y.

**Howard E.<sup>12</sup> "Bucky" Hartwell**, son of Rush C.<sup>11</sup> & Minnie (Barney) Hartwell, d. Hornell, NY  
10 Aug. 2014, aged 89y.

**Hugh Bronsdon<sup>9</sup> Hartwell**, d. in Denver, Colorado,  
28 Aug. 2014, aged 84y [obituary in Worcester [MA] Telegram & Gazette].

James Charles Hartwell d. Memphis, TN 29 May 2015,  
aged 71.

**James Richard<sup>11</sup> Hartwell** d. Melbourne Beach, FL  
15 Feb. 2015.

Jason A. Hartwell, son of David & Sharon Hartwell, d.  
Varysburg, NY 15 Dec. 2014.

Joseph L. Hartwell d. in Mobile, AL  
2 Sept. 2014, aged 71.

Kenneth L. Hartwell d. in Roseville, MI 9 May 2015.

**Lucille (Desmond) Hartwell**, widow of **Leo Alfred<sup>12</sup> Hartwell**, d. in Scarborough, ME 4 Aug. 2014  
[obituary sent by Vickie Hartwell Rogers]

Margaret M. Hartwell, daughter of Henry & Mary (Roach) Hartwell, d. Finger Lakes, 4 July 2014.

Nancy A. (Ashner) Hartwell, wife of Charles A.  
Hartwell, d. Torrington, CT 5 Oct. 2014.

**Robert H.<sup>11</sup> Hartwell** d. Turners Falls, MA 25 Jan. 2015,  
aged 68y.

**Robert J.<sup>10</sup> Hartwell**, husband of Audrey, d. Miami, FL  
9 Jan. 2015.

**Robert John<sup>13</sup> Hartwell** d. in Denver, CO 8 April 2015.

Roy K. Hartwell, d. N. Las Vegas, NV 14 July 2014.

Shirley Barney Hartwell, widow of Raymond, d.  
Appomattox, VA 2 Jan. 2015.

Shirley (Coleman) Hartwell, widow of Henry Hartwell (African American) d. 16 May 2015, aged 66.

Trish Hartwell, wife of Wayne Hartwell, d. Magalia, CA  
16 July 2014.

Walter James Hartwell d. Hudson, FL 23 Jan. 2015,  
aged 73y.

**Beverly Jane<sup>11</sup> (Hartwell) Murphy** d. Greenfield, MA  
21 March 2015, aged 93 [Obituary sent by  
Caroline Brown].

**Dr. Ivan M. Spear**, widower of **Hope M.<sup>9</sup> (Hartwell) Spear** (sister of Hugh Bronsdon Hartwell, above) d.  
Worcester, MA 18 Oct. 2014, aged 92 [obituary,  
Worcester Telegram & Gazette].

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#### **Minutes of the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Hartwells of America**

On Saturday, June 28, 2014, nineteen Hartwell cousins and friends assembled at the Trinitarian Congregational Church, Concord, MA, for the Hartwells of America Association's Seventy-Seventh Annual Reunion. Hardly a colossal turnout, but consistent with Reunions of late. We were once again blessed with perfect weather.

President Wayne E. Hartwell (Foxborough, MA) called the business meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. Given the size of the group, the meeting was a tad less formal than usual (if that's possible) and conducted in round-table fashion.

Roger Whitcher Hartwell (Quincy, MA) offered an opening prayer, after which a moment of silence was observed in memory of Hartwell cousins deceased since the last Reunion.

First-time Reunion attendees Elizabeth and James Radloff (Sandwich, MA) and Mabel Rowell (Derry, NH)

were welcomed.

The minutes of the 2013 business meeting, as published in the 2014 Newsletter, were accepted. Wayne Hartwell noted that the number of email subscribers to the Newsletter is steadily increasing, albeit slower than anticipated. A discussion ensued regarding the need to update the Association's Web site and work on establishing a presence on social media. Katy Hartwell (Foxborough, MA) volunteered to contact the present Web Master, Wes Hartwell (Omaha, NE) (who created the site in 1997), to offer assistance in updating the site; she was awarded the new position of Digital Media Correspondent by acclamation.

David Hartwell Webber (Dunstable, MA) delivered the Treasurer's report. The balance on hand in the Scholarship Fund at the close of the Association's 2014 Fiscal Year totaled \$16,950.37, including donations received during the Fiscal Year in the sum of \$625.00. The Operating Fund, which pays for the Reunion, Newsletter, and other Association operating expenses, stood at \$1,585.49 and the Genealogy Fund at \$2,118.03. Operating Fund revenue for the year, from bank interest, dues, and the sale of Hartwell literature, totaled \$1,363.32. Net income from sales of Genealogies (14) was \$688.88. Expenses for the year for Scholarships (four at \$200), Newsletter, postage, the Reunion, and donations of \$100.00 (for Fiscal Years 2012, 2013) to the Social Law Library and \$25 to the Friends of Minuteman National Park totaled \$1,850.97.

Scholarship Committee Chairperson Marilyn Booth Manzella (Framingham, MA) reported that no applications for grants from the Scholarship Fund had been received for the 2014-2015 academic year.

Genealogist Joy F. Peach (Lancaster, MA) highlighted in her report the recent release of the 1940 Census and the treasure trove of information it contained on the more recent generations. Joy also continues her efforts to connect "orphan" Hartwell family groups to the William<sup>1</sup> line. There was also discussion of a real family reunion in which Joy played a part.

In 1918, William Allen Hartwell married Alveretta Hickey. The couple had three children, Esther (b. Aug. 10, 1919), Mabel Zelina (b. Dec. 22, 1920), and Paul K. (b. Jan. 10, 1922). William died in late 1922. We know nothing of the family's circumstances, but Mabel was adopted by an aunt, Pearl Ethelyn (Hartwell) Mason. Alveretta subsequently remarried and raised Ethel and Paul.

Mabel grew up, of course. In August, 1942, she married John Thomas Rowell, and, after his World War II Army service in England and Germany as a surgical technician, moved around from Michigan to Florida to Virginia while raising three children.

Esther fondly recalled Mable and fervently wished that one day they might be reunited—but did not

know where to start. Enter Esther's daughter, Deryl Santosuosso (Haverhill, MA), and her cousin, Paul S. Hartwell (Stoneham, MA) (son of Paul K.), who took up the quest. One person they contacted was Joy Peach, who provided such information as she had available.

Long story short: in 2004, in Richmond, VA, Esther and Mable were reunited. Although Joy downplayed her role in bringing this about, arguing that Deryl and Paul did all the work, Paul credited her input as most helpful. The moral is this: If you need to make family connections, you contact a genealogist—that's what you do (with apologies to Geico). Word has it that the bond was immediate and close; the long-separated sisters were able to enjoy each other's company until Esther's passing in 2009. This closeness is captured in Esther's obituary, where Mable is identified not only as sister, but also "best friend."

So, why is this lovely vignette coming to light just now? Because Mable, at 93, was attending her first Hartwell Reunion.

In terms of the annual awards, no surprise that Mabel Rowell was the eldest lady in attendance, while Roger Whitcher Hartwell was the eldest gentleman. The youngest attendee was Tina Seeger (a multiple winner—where's all the really young ones?). The prize for traveling the farthest to attend was shared by Elizabeth and James Radloff (Sandwich, MA). Hartwell Tavern tote bags were distributed to the winners.

The last business of the day were a vote for the usual donations and a vote to return to Trinitarian for the 2015 Reunion, after which everyone assembled outside for the group photograph by Association Photographer Katy Hartwell.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judith Bacon Hartwell,  
Recording Secretary



Joy Peach, Paul Hartwell, Mabel Rowell and Deryl Santosuosso



## Let's Take a Hike

Certainly locals in the Concord-Bedford area, geotrekking, and hikers in general are aware of the Hartwell Town Forest in Bedford. I'm guessing that most of us Hartwells don't know it exists, and that probably much less known is how it came to be.<sup>1</sup> The story goes like this.

During or shortly after 1636, the Proprietors of the 30,000-acre Musketaquid Grant (later the Town of Concord) made the so-called "First Division" of about one-quarter of that area among the settlers. William<sup>1</sup> Hartwell received a house lot and 17 dispersed parcels of meadow and upland, totaling 86 acres. Beginning in 1653, a "Second Division" of the remainder of the tract was made, with each landowner receiving roughly three acres for each acre granted in the First Division. In this division, William<sup>1</sup> picked up eight parcels constituting 199.5 acres of upland, some located in a northeastern section of the Town that became part of Bedford in 1729.<sup>2</sup> William<sup>1</sup>'s Second Division lands lay largely unimproved almost to the end of the seventeenth century, when his grandson, Samuel<sup>3</sup>, married and moved there.

Fast forward a few generations to William Green<sup>7</sup> Hartwell (1834-1912), now owner of some 125 acres of original William<sup>1</sup> woodland lying between Hartwell Road and South Road in Bedford. During his entire business career he was a fuel dealer, selling wood from that lot and coal to customers in Bedford and adjoining towns. During the winter months for many years he delivered fireplace wood from the Hartwell land by two-horse sleds (or "pungs," as they were called) to professors' homes and dormitories at Harvard College in Cambridge.

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<sup>1</sup> I've been attending Hartwell Reunions for (gasp!) 65 years, nearly half of that time serving as President of the Association (can't find anyone who wants the job), and still learn something new about Hartwell history every year. This year's revelation about the Hartwell Town Forest came to light by way of a collection of Hartwell papers maintained by Alden W.<sup>9</sup> Webber and provided by son David H.<sup>10</sup> Webber.

<sup>2</sup> While one will find references to a 1666 "third" division and a grant of land to William<sup>1</sup> in that year, that did not happen. What occurred in 1666 was the culmination of about a three-year exercise in which the Town's somewhat vague land ownership records were reconciled with how landowners' parcels were actually laid out on the ground and then entered into a "new booke."

By 1940, title to the property was held by William<sup>7</sup>'s only surviving daughter, Clara Howard<sup>8</sup> Hartwell (who had served for 45 years as Librarian of the Bedford Free Public Library) and two grandsons, Alden William<sup>9</sup> Webber and Alfred Hartwell<sup>9</sup> Webber (both members of the Bedford Board of Assessors). Having developed and sold seven house lots on Hartwell Road, the three decided to dispose of the remaining 122 acres of Hartwell woodland. Accordingly, on August 2, 1940, the land was deeded by them to the Town of Bedford for the purpose of establishing the Hartwell Town Forest as a living memorial to one of the community's oldest families, which had owned the land for nearly 300 years.

Today, Hartwell Town Forest—only five miles from Concord Center—is Bedford's largest conservation area and managed under the provisions of the Massachusetts Town Forest Act as a "public domain" which must be devoted to the culture of forest trees or to the preservation of the municipality's water supply. Its initial use as a managed town forest has evolved to habitat preservation and passive recreation. Its many valuable features include a large forested wetland bordering Hartwell Brook, mature white pines with great horned owl nesting areas, and excellent level



hiking and cross-country ski trails. Hartwell Forest may be of particular value for neotropical migrant birds, such as the rose-breasted grosbeak, ovenbird, eastern wood-pewee, and scarlet tanager, which have been observed there during breeding season. The Forest—located just off the Minuteman Bikeway—includes two camping and picnic areas and an extensive trail system extends from Hartwell and South Roads to the Jordan Conservation Area and the Air Force family campground at Hanscom Field. Limited roadside parking is available at the Hartwell Road entrance.

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## A Christmas Story

Received an email from one Constance<sup>12</sup> (“Connie”) Hartwell Fullerton, Annandale, VA, last July which set off a lively correspondence. Connie said she always enjoys reading the Newsletter and was admiring the Hartwell Tavern tote bags given as acknowledgements of the Oldest, Youngest, and so on attending the Reunions. She wondering whether she could obtain some as Christmas gifts for her children.

Ordinarily the Great Hartwell T-Shirt & Tote Bag Manufacturing Co.’s annual production runs to only those necessary for that year’s Reunion, but in Connie’s case, management decided to make an exception. Turns out that Connie is the youngest and only surviving of the four daughters of Claude Seymour<sup>11</sup> Hartwell, who, at the instigation of future Hartwell Genealogist, John F.9 Hartwell, helped organize the Hartwells of America Association in 1937 and was its first president. Connie recalled attending a few of the early Reunions as a child (at least 1940 and 1941, and probably before, but “the Book” doesn’t go back before 1939). Figured that with that lineage, Connie deserved a tote bag or two. We decided on a design, and she ordered ten.

The date on the Totes—1755—is a best estimate. The house was built in 1732 by Ephraim’s father, Samuel, on land adjacent to his own house down the road. Samuel

gifted the house to Ephraim in 1733. At the time, the property was located in east Concord. Lincoln was not incorporated until 1754, when pieces of Concord, Weston, and Lincoln were “nipped” off to form the new town. From all that is known, Ephraim probably first operated a tavern in 1754 or 1755 and did receive an innkeeper’s license from Lincoln in 1756; 1787 was the last year the license was renewed.

Connie reported that the Totes were a “hoot,” and that by Christmas evening the “kids” were exchanging pages from the Internet about the Hartwell Tavern. Connie did have one complaint, though—about the price, which she thought was too low. Fearing that she would evoke the wrath of a “progenitor” of the organization if she didn’t contribute to the Hartwells of America, Connie made a generous donation to the Association.

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\*As an aside, I happened to mention during our correspondence that, like her father, I am a Boston lawyer; Connie responded that the profession must run in her family: three of her six children are attorneys (pictured below l. to r., Larry, Jim, Connie, Leslie (an engineer), and Laura—all obviously thrilled with their tote bags; not pictured, Don and Linda, college professors both), two of the attorneys married lawyers, and three grandchildren are in law school. As Connie put it, “that’s how northern Virginia is!”





## 2014 Reunion



Tina Seeger



Mabel Rowell



Roger Witcher Hartwell



James and Lizz Radloff

### Hartwell Items Available

**Full Color Coat of Arms** (of the present baronet)—\$3.00

**Coat of Arms Description only**—\$1.00

**145-page Booklet, "The Hartwell Arms"**—\$2.00

**Add \$2.00 for shipping and handling to your order.**

Please send orders to: David Hartwell Webber, Treasurer  
Hartwells of America  
19 Terrell Ln  
Hollis, NH 30349-8509

Make checks payable to HARTWELLS OF AMERICA

# Annual Dues Payable Now

Annual Dues for the Hartwells of America, for the fiscal year ending June 27, 2015, in the amount of \$5.00, are enclosed for the following:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Dues should be mailed only to:  
David Hartwell Webber, Treasurer  
Hartwells of America  
19 Terrell Ln  
Hollis, NH 03049-8509

It would be greatly appreciated  
if you could enclose a  
self-addressed, stamped return envelope  
with your dues.

## *The Descendants of William Hartwell, Concord Settler, 1636, Through Five Generations*

### Order Form

Yes, please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copy/ies of *The Descendants of William Hartwell, Concord Settler, 1636, Through Five Generations*—ISBN: 978-0-9793318-0-0

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Price per Copy: \$50.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping & Handling: \$6.00 per Copy: \_\_\_\_\_

MA residents add 5% sales tax (\$2.50) per Copy: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Please mail check or money order payable to The Hartwells of America to:

David Hartwell Webber, Treasurer, Hartwells of America, 19 Terrell Ln, Hollis, NH 03049-8509

## *Hartwells of America Scholarship Fund*

The Hartwells of America annually awards a scholarship or scholarships to students pursuing post-secondary educational programs.

Applications may be submitted through June 11, 2016 and will receive consideration at the June 25, 2016 Reunion for the scholarship grants to be awarded for the academic year 2016-2017. To obtain eligibility requirements and applications, contact: **Marilyn Booth Manzella, Hartwells of America Scholarship Committee, 350 Winch St., Framingham, MA 01701-3884, (508) 877-6484, [mbmanzella@rcn.com](mailto:mbmanzella@rcn.com), or at the Web site [<http://www.hartwell.org/scholar.html>](http://www.hartwell.org/scholar.html)**

Please note that scholarship grants are **only** available to those whose dues to the Hartwells of America Association are **paid currently** as of the date of the Reunion at which the grants are awarded.

When paying your annual dues, please consider also making a contribution to the Scholarship Fund.

78<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**Hartwells of America**  
Reunion & Business Meeting

Saturday, June 27, 2015

Hartwells of America  
7 Birch Tree Road  
Foxborough, MA 02035



First Reunion Photo from archive of Hartwell papers maintained by Alden W.<sup>9</sup> Webber and provided by son David H.<sup>10</sup> Webber. No wisecracks about the appropriateness of the venue, please.

Join the more than 50 eco-friendly Hartwell cousins and friends who have signed up for email delivery of their Newsletters to help save on the Association's printing and postage costs *and* receive their Newsletters sooner (and in color). To enroll, simply send an email to [whartwell@socialaw.com](mailto:whartwell@socialaw.com) with "Newsletter Email Delivery" in the subject field and your name, address, and preferred email address in the body.

HELP SAVE THE PLANET